

St. George Orthodox Church

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Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Protodeacon Michael Bassett

November 18, 2018

25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: *MARTYR PLATON OF ANCYRA*

Tone - 8 3rd Matins Gospel {*Mark 16:9-20*}

Altar Servers: **EVERYONE**

Confessions

8:30-9:30am

Matins p.44

8:50am

Divine Liturgy p.91

10:00am

Memorial Service

Trisagion p.183

Welcome to St. George! Thank you for attending today's Divine Liturgy. Please register your visit by completing the guest book located in the narthex. We would appreciate getting to meet you, so feel free to join us during Coffee Fellowship in our Banquet Center!

Every Sunday we remember the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The word "*Liturgy*" means *work of the people* that means everyone participates through singing, praying, hearing the teaching, and opening our hearts to allow God's grace to enter. We believe Holy Communion to be a sign that in Christ we have all things in common, share an identical faith, and are united fully to the Orthodox Church. Anyone interested in learning more about our faith are encouraged to speak with one of our clergy. Holy Communion can be given to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting (no food or drink from midnight the night before), the Sacrament of Confession (7 years and older) within the last 2 months, being at peace with others, and attending the Divine Liturgy regularly. Please know everyone is invited to venerate the Holy Cross and receive Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy.

In the **Divine Liturgy** of **St. John Chrysostom**, we sing the following **Special Hymns**:

Third Antiphon (during the Little Entrance)

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 8

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial that Thou might deliver us from passion. Thou art our life and our resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 8 (*same as above*)

انحدرت من العلو يا مُتَحَيِّن. وقبِلت الدفنَ ذا الثلاثةِ الأيام، لكي نُعْتَقِنَا من الآلام. فيا حياتنا وقيامتنا يا ربُّ المجدُّ لك.

Troparion for St. George—Tone 4

As deliverer of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings: Victorious Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, for our souls' salvation.

بما أنك للمأسورين محرر ومعتق، وللفقراء والمساكين عاضد وناصر، وللمرضى طبيب وشاف، وعن المؤمنين مكافح ومحارب، أيها العظيم في الشهداء جاورجيوس اللابس الظفر، تشفع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

Kontakion of Mary's Entrance into the Temple—Tone 4

The all-pure temple of the Savior, the most precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the treasure-house of the glory of God, today enters the Temple of the Lord, bringing with her the grace which is in the divine Spirit: whom also the angels of God do celebrate in song; for she is the heavenly tabernacle.

إنَّ الهيكلَ الكليَّ النقاوة، هيكلَ المخلص، البتولَ الخدرَ الجزيلَ الثمن، والكنزَ الطاهرَ لمجدِ الله، اليومَ تدخلُ إلى بيتِ الربِّ، وتُدخلُ معها نعمةَ الروحِ الإلهيِّ، فلتسبِّحها ملائكةَ الله، لأنها هي المظلةُ السماويةُ.

Epistle Reading: *Ephesians 4:1-7* {25th Sunday after Pentecost}

Gospel Reading: *Luke 12:16-21* {9th Sunday of St. Luke}

Holy Bread Offerings

- Zahra Abuaita and Family for the health of her family and in loving memory of husband **Hanna** Abuaita (1 year).
- The family of **Philip** and **Janett** Abuaita for their health on the occasion of their 60th anniversary of being united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony -- *May God grant them many years!*
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Carlos** David (October 12th, cousin of Laila Abud), **Georgette** Maalouf (+October 19th, relative of John Abud), and **Samira** Nassar (+November 9th, relative of the Nassar's).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Metropolitan Paul** and **Archbishop John** who are in captivity, **Bishop Alexander** (Ottawa and Eastern Canada, and Upstate New York), **Laila** and **Sahar** Abdallah, **Androlla** Abu Aita, **Asma** Abuaita (sister of Janett Abuaita), **Manal** Abuaita, **Cesar** and **Naila** Banna, **Emil** Bathish, **Alex** and **Panayiotis** Deligorges, **Vera** Farah, **Betty** Froberg, **Mariam** Ghanim (Manal's mother), **Phyllis** Good, **Carol** Haddad, **Roland** Haddad, **Daisy** Isaac, **Nawal** and **Nemer** Iseid, **Sally** Joseph, **Nakhleh** and **Nicola** Khoury, **Danny** Mortensen, **Heather** Nassar, **Karam** Nassar, **George** and **Renee** Nassif, **Aida** Raffoul, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Eva** Saseen (niece of George and Jeanette Nassif), **Michael** and **Nancy** Silpoch, **William** Sophiea Jr., **Lois** Teunion, and **Vicki** Toma (sister of Fr. Joe).
- We also pray for those who are with child: **Jenny** (Hanna) Abuaita, **Ola** (Michael) Alqazaha, Dr. **Lindsey** (Dr. Ryan) Brunner, **Walaa** (Rami) Khoury, and **Karen** (Nicholas) Shaheen {Drs. Ron and Kathy's son}.

Communion Hymn (for the Lord's Day)

(Refrain) Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the highest.

(Verse) Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts! (Refrain)

(Verse) Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you shining stars! (Refrain)

(Verse) Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! (Refrain)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Reception of Holy Communion

Please remember only **ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS** who have **PREPARED** themselves may partake of Holy Communion. *"But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."* (1 Corinthians 11:28-29). If you are physically able, please remain standing during Holy Communion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP MEMORIAL MEAL is hosted by *Zahra Abuaita and Family*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: Nov. 25th, Dec. 2nd, 9th, and 30th ~ sign-up poster and hosting information is in the Lounge and includes: bringing whatever you wish to serve and cleaning up afterwards. St. George provides coffee, cups, cream, and sugar at a charge to the host of \$25. For more information, see Manal Abuaita. *During the Christmas Fast (November 15th - December 24th), no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, or their by-products are served.*

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

- Thank you to everyone that donated their time to help out or make a turkey; we appreciate you all. Our annual Church School Thanksgiving was a great success because of you!! Our Christmas program is on Saturday, December 8th. A letter will be going home today with your child. Stay tuned for more information and mark your calendars!

HOLY SACRAMENT OF REPENTANCE (CONFESSION) If you are 8 years or older, have been away from the Church, or have not had Confession in the last 2 months and desire to come back and receive the Body and Blood of Christ, please remember you must offer a confession of your sins first. During this time of preparation during the **Christmas Great Fast** is a perfect opportunity. Father Joe is not the only Orthodox priest in the area and if you would prefer to go for confession to one of the other local priests, feel free to do so (*please just let Fr. Joe know*): Fr. Gabriel Bilas from St. Mary Magdalene (810-750-1401) or Fr. Matthew Butrie from St. Nicholas Church (810-744-0070). The important thing is not who hears your confession, but that you participate in this Holy Sacrament on a regular basis. **Blessed are those who wash their (baptismal) robes, that they may have the right to the Tree of Life (Christ in Holy Communion).** (*Revelation 22:14*)

HELP TO BRIGHTEN A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS! This year for Christmas, our parish is participating in the **North End Soup Kitchen Angel Tree**. 29 children are looking for “angels” to brighten their Christmas. Gift range is between \$20 and \$30. Attach the provided gift tag (which has the child’s name and the code number to the gift) and place in gift bags. Please return the gifts by Sunday, December 9th. The Angel Tree with tags will be in our Banquet Center during Coffee Fellowship. If you have any questions, please speak with our coordinator May Gantos (586-531-8120). Thank you and may God bless your generosity!

COMING EVENTS

This Week	On Thursday, November 15 th , we began the traditional forty-day CHRISTMAS FAST in preparation for the feast of the Nativity of Christ on December 25 th . The Fast is divided into two periods. The <u>first period</u> is until December 19 th when the traditional fasting discipline (<i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, oil and their by-products</i>) is observed on all days except Tuesdays and Thursdays when <i>wine and oil</i> are allowed and Saturdays and Sundays when <i>fish, wine, and oil</i> are allowed. There is no fasting on Thanksgiving Day.
Monday	Bible Study: Acts of the Apostles 3-5pm
Tuesday	Combined Pan-Orthodox Evening Divine Liturgy: Entrance of the Virgin Mary into the Temple at St. George 6pm
Wednesday	NO Arabic/English Bible Study NO SOYO Wednesday
Thursday	Always Give Thanks to the Lord ~ have a blessed Thanksgiving!
Saturday	Great Vespers and Confessions 5pm

CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS We can make donations and purchases by Credit or Debit Card. This can be done by coming to the office or calling 810-732-0720 during Office Hours (see below).

WEEKLY OFFERINGS Our average weekly offerings need to be \$5,630 to meet our 2018 Budget. On November 11th, our offerings were \$2,919, so we were short \$2,711 ☹ If you have not already, please support God's work at St. George!

How to Forgive? We must put aside all resentment!

by Abbot Tryphon, head of All-Merciful Savior Monastery on Vashon Island, Washington

The decision to forgive another person a wrong done to us begins when we decide to let go of resentment and thoughts of revenge. To forgive someone does not mean that we forget what they did to us, for this may be impossible. The memory of the hurt might always remain with you, but when you decide to forgive the person who wronged you, the grip of resentment is put aside. When we forgive someone, it is even possible the find yourself filled with compassion and empathy for the person, for the act of forgiveness opens the heart to God's grace.

When we forgive someone, we are not denying their responsibility for hurting or offending us, nor are we justifying their act. We can forgive them without approving or excusing their transgression against us. The act of forgiving another opens our heart to the peace that brings closure to hurt and pain, and opens us up to the love and peace that comes from living a life without resentment.

If we find ourselves struggling to forgive, it is a good reminder to recall those hurtful things we have done to others, and remember when we have been forgiven. It is especially good to recall how God has forgiven us, and call upon Him to give us the grace needed to put aside our resentment, and truly forgive the other person. Being quick to forgive, and putting aside all thoughts of revenge, will open our heart to a joyful and peaceful life.

Finally, if we pray for those who have offended us, we open the door to all kinds of possibilities. When we ask God to help the person who has been unkind and hurtful, our own hearts receive healing, for when we have forgiven others, grace abounds.

"Don't repay evil for evil. Do not retaliate when people say unkind things about you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God wants you to do, and he will bless you for it."
(1 Peter 3:9)

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- If you know of a parishioner who has given birth, fallen ill, or admitted to the hospital, please call the church office or let Father Joe know.
- **OFFICE HOURS** Our secretary, Kelly Dotson, works on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays (10am-4pm); Tuesdays and Wednesdays (1pm-4pm). Kelly can be reached during office hours at 810-732-0720 or kellysecstgeorge@gmail.com.
- If you would like to host Coffee Fellowship in memory of a loved one, the occasion of a birthday, a wedding anniversary, or in thanksgiving to God, sign up on the poster in the Lounge or speak with Manal Abuaita.



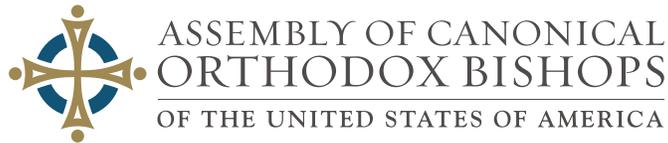
IOCC SUNDAY

A Day of Sharing - November 18, 2018

Each year on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, Orthodox faithful across the US thank God for the privilege of serving the least of our brethren through IOCC. The Assembly of Bishops has named it *A Day of Sharing*. On this day, we consider IOCC's global work and the ways you sustain it: by providing food, water, shelter, and medicine to refugees, offering economic opportunity to farmers in northern Greece, training healthcare workers in Ethiopia, and so much more. Please consider giving a gift of compassion today.

IOCC, the official humanitarian agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America, has provided over \$661 million in humanitarian relief and development programs to people in need in more than 60 countries.





— Office of the Secretariat —

“Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink?”

— Matthew 25:37

To the Most Reverend Clergy, Venerable Monastics, and
Devout Faithful of the Holy Orthodox Churches in the Americas:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On this Sunday before Thanksgiving, Orthodox faithful in the United States come together to give thanks to God for His many blessings, and for the privilege of serving Christ by serving others. The Assembly of Bishops has designated this *A Day of Sharing*. It is set aside to focus on the work of International Orthodox Christian Charities, or IOCC, whose mission is to help people in great need, wherever and whoever they may be.

As the official humanitarian and development agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America, IOCC is a way for Orthodox Christians to extend to others the great mercy that Christ has shown us. Since its creation in 1992, IOCC has served people around the world facing war, famine, natural disaster, and economic hardship so that they may have the means to live with dignity, respect, and hope.

Through your faithfulness and generosity, IOCC extends hope to families, refugees and displaced persons, the elderly, schoolchildren, orphans, and people with disabilities—to students, young graduates, small businesses, and farmers. When news of disaster dominates our daily lives, IOCC is present to offer practical assistance: helping Syrian refugees in Greece, Jordan, Lebanon, and Romania, and Syrians displaced in their own country, by providing food, water, shelter, and medicine; offering economic opportunity and business mentoring in Greece amidst continued financial crisis; building school facilities in Uganda; repairing water networks in Lebanon; supporting the Romanian Orthodox Church’s training for social workers in assisting children with special needs; and erecting innovative greenhouses in Georgia to serve the Church and its community with produce and income. With assistance offered in the spirit of Christ’s love, entrepreneurs in Bosnia-Herzegovina have grown their businesses, while fire survivors in Greece who lost everything have started anew. Here in the United States, IOCC has cleaned out and rebuilt homes damaged by floods and hurricanes, offering emotional and spiritual care to individuals and families.

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As an agency of the Assembly, IOCC is an organization of all our Orthodox jurisdictions, echoing our unity in Christ as His body. IOCC's mission to offer assistance without discrimination recalls Christ's teaching to help our neighbors, even as the Samaritan of the Gospel helped the injured traveler, seeing not our differences but our shared humanity. As we thank God for His goodness to us, let us not forget our neighbors – God's children – facing difficulty near and far, and let us recommit to serving those in need, whoever and wherever they may be!

During this holy season, may the Lord shine His mercy upon you and your family and bring His peace into your homes and your hearts.

With paternal blessings and love in Christ,

+Metropolitan NICOLAE of the
Romanian Orthodox Metropolia of the Americas
*Liaison for IOCC from the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox
Bishops of the United States of America*